

**Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**

اتفاقية استكهولم بشأن الملوثات العضوية الثابتة · 关于持久性有机污染物的斯德哥尔摩公约 · Convention de Stockholm sur les polluants organiques persistants
Convenio de Estocolmo sobre Contaminantes Orgánicos Persistentes · Стокгольмская конвенция о стойких органических загрязнителях



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21 October 2011

Subject: Invitation to submit information specified in Annex E to the Stockholm Convention for chlorinated naphthalenes and hexachlorobutadiene to the POPs Review Committee

The seventh meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention took place from 10 to 14 October 2011, in Geneva. The report of the meeting will be available at the Convention's website: <http://www.pops.int/poprc/>.

The Committee had before it proposals submitted by the European Union and its members States that are parties to the Convention for listing **chlorinated naphthalenes** and **hexachlorobutadiene** in Annexes A, B, and/or C to the Convention.

In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8 of the Convention, the Committee examined the proposals and applied the screening criteria in Annex D to the Convention in a flexible and transparent way. The Committee decided that the screening criteria had been fulfilled and that further work should therefore be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

The next step in the process is to prepare risk profiles for **chlorinated naphthalenes** and **hexachlorobutadiene**, as noted in Annex E, "evaluate whether the chemical is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects, such that global action is warranted". The risk profile shall further evaluate and elaborate on the information referred to in Annex D and include, as far as possible, the information listed in Annex E. As provided for by the Convention, the risk profile will take into account information to be submitted by Parties and observers.

What information is required?

You are invited to submit information specified in **Annex E** according to the guidance provided in this letter.

The POPs Review Committee needs information on **chlorinated naphthalenes** and **hexachlorobutadiene** that is supplementary to the information provided already in the proposal for inclusion in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention and supplementary to the information brought forward during the evaluation of the screening criteria by the Committee. The proposal and the evaluation are available at the Convention's web site (<http://www.pops.int/poprc/>).

**To: Stockholm Convention official contact points
Stockholm Convention national focal points**

Cc: Representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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How to submit information?

A form with a general guidance and explanatory notes developed by the Committee is contained in the annex to this letter to facilitate the submission of information. The form is also available on the Convention's website in the six official languages of the United Nations. You may also provide a free text submission.

Where feasible, please complete the form and give precise references for the data sources. Without the exact source of the information, the Committee might not be able to use it. If the information is not readily available in the public literature, you may consider attaching the original source of the information to the submission.

Concerning the submission of confidential information, please note that the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee adopted in decision SC-3/9 by the Conference of the Parties is available on the Convention's website.

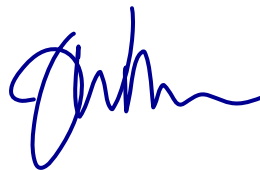
We would be grateful to receive your submission **in English no later than 9 January 2012**. Information in other United Nations official languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish and Russian) should be submitted by 15 December 2011.

The information should be submitted to the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, preferably by e-mail:

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
Att: POPs Review Committee
United Nations Environment Programme
11-13 chemin des Anémones
CH-1219, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 917 8098
E-mail: ssc@pops.int; kohno@pops.int

If you have any questions regarding this request or you would like to receive hard copies of the documents from the Committee, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Kei Ohno (e-mail: kohno@pops.int; telephone +41 22 917 8201).

Yours sincerely,



Jim Willis
Executive Secretary

Annex

General guidance on submission of information specified in Annex E

A. Procedure

1. In accordance with Article 8 of the Convention, a Party may submit a proposal for listing a chemical in Annexes A, B and/or C. The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee examines the proposal and applies the screening criteria specified in Annex D to the Convention. The Committee's evaluation of the chemical against the criteria of Annex D is set out in an annex to the report of the meeting of the Committee at which it is undertaken. The meeting report is made available on the Convention's website (www.pops.int).

2. When the Committee is satisfied that the screening criteria set out in Annex D have been fulfilled, it invites Parties and observers to submit the information specified in Annex E of the Convention. The Committee then prepares a draft risk profile based on the submitted information. The draft risk profile is set out in an addendum to the report of the meeting at which it is adopted by the Committee and is made available on the Convention's website (www.pops.int).

B. How to submit information

3. Annex E information may be submitted to the Secretariat using a form provided by the Committee. The form may be obtained from the Convention focal points and from the Convention website. It is preferable that Annex E information be submitted in electronic format and in English; information may be submitted, however, in the other official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish) and in hard copy. Please note that if you are completing the form electronically, the size of the boxes will adjust to the amount of text inserted and, thus, a complete form may be longer than the current number of pages. If you are completing a paper hard copy of the form, please include additional pages as required. The deadline for submitting information is indicated in the letter from the secretariat inviting Parties and observers to provide information.

C. Reminders to those submitting information

4. Parties and observers providing Annex E information should do so in a concise manner with clear and precise references. If the information on a specific item is not available, please so indicate. The information does not have to be national in nature; information from international source may be cited.

5. If possible and relevant, provide additional information to support the Committee's scientific considerations in preparing the risk profile such as study methods, tissue concentrations for comparative purposes and citations including original copies of papers that are not readily available in the public domain. Information which is not peer-reviewed may still be useful for the Committee.

6. The explanatory notes under each item have been developed by the Committee to guide and assist submissions; they have no legal status.

D. Guidance for information collection

7. A guidance document entitled "Handbook for effective participation in the work of the POPs Review Committee" outlines the methodology for the identification and compilation of information required by the Committee. The handbook is available on the Convention website and hard copies may be obtained upon request to the Secretariat.

8. It is suggested that each Party establish an ad hoc working group, perhaps building on the committee established to develop the Party's national implementation plan, to assist the national focal point to collect and submit relevant information.

9. Other potential sources of information are listed below:

- (a) National expertise (e.g., universities, research centres, non-governmental organizations, trade unions);
 - (b) Industries (e.g. producers, importers, suppliers, downstream users);
 - (c) International literature;
 - (d) Chemicals databases
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